

**US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**  
**CONTINGENCY PLAN FACT SHEET**  
**APRIL 8, 2011**

We continue to hope that Congress will reach an agreement to avoid a government shutdown, but we are working to prepare for all possible scenarios. The following fact sheet provides basic information about the US Geological Survey's contingency plans in the event of a government shutdown.

**Services and Programs that would remain operational**

<b>NAME OF SERVICE/PROGRAM</b>	<b>REASON</b>
Emergency Flood Response: Flood forecast & flood warnings; provide data to emergency flood managers	Emergency and/or excepted activity
Scientific Laboratories to remain open on limited basis: Maintain operations of critical and costly research experiments; Ensure proper functioning of equipment to maintain integrity of samples.	Emergency and/or excepted activity
Earthquake Hazards Program 24/7 Monitoring	Emergency and/or excepted activity
Maintenance of Nuclear Reactor: Human Health and Safety and Protection of Government Property	Emergency and/or excepted activity
Biological Threat Coordination: Emergency Response in event of wildlife mortality event or pandemic	Emergency and/or excepted activity
Landsat 7 Satellite Operations: Protection and maintenance of government property; insurance of proper satellite operations; satellite safety emergency critical systems	Emergency and/or excepted activity
National Ice Core Labs (NICL): Maintain one-of-a-kind facility for storing meteoric ice cores essential for research	Emergency and/or excepted activity
Volcano Observatories: Monitor on-going volcanic activity	Emergency and/or excepted activity
Keep research specimens alive; Maintain and feed animals: Detection and analysis of zoonotic threats in wildlife	Emergency and/or excepted activity
Saltwater Intrusion Drilling Project; Hilton Head, SC: Maintain operations of critical and costly research experiments	Emergency and/or excepted activity

### **Services and programs that would be closed**

The USGS will suspend the majority of its activities with the exception of those functions to protect life and property. None excepted activities will be suspended including collecting, monitoring, analyzing, and providing scientific understanding about natural resource conditions, issues, and problems, and carrying out large-scale, multi-disciplinary investigations to provide impartial scientific information to resource managers, planners, and other customers.

### **Key citizen services that would be affected**

- Key global commodity data & water quality data analysis and dissemination.
- Research activities to restore the Chesapeake Bay to restore the endangered whooping crane to the wild, and to monitor and assess the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.
- Preparations for seafloor surveys to identify offshore mineral resources.
- Evaluation of hazards to nuclear plants
- Scientific studies to establish the outer limits of US extended continental shelf
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- Seismic network stations would not be maintained; quality and timeliness of earthquake and volcano information would degrade with time.
- Inquiries from reporters and the public will not be answered & outreach activities at USGS offices nationwide will be discontinued.
- Access to publications, maps, and data will be limited.

### **Employees**

- Total agency employees: 8,900
- Total employees who would be furloughed: 8,700